

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

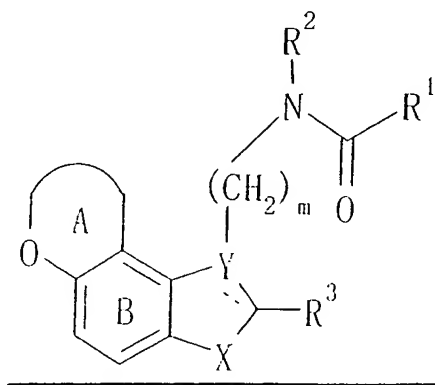
**1-6. (Cancelled)**

**7. (Currently amended)** The A percutaneous absorption preparation according to ~~claim 17~~, wherein the compound having a melatonin receptor agonist activity is comprising (S)-N-[2-(1,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2H-indeno [5,4-b]furan-8-yl)ethyl]acetamide, lauric diethanolamide, and optionally one or more members selected from fatty acid esters and polyhydric alcohols.

**8-19. (Cancelled)**

**20. (Currently amended)** The A percutaneous absorption preparation according to ~~claim 17~~ comprising (S)-N-[2-(1,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2H-indeno[5,4-b]furan-8-yl)ethyl]acetamide, isopropyl myristate, polyethylene glycol and lauric diethanolamide.

**21. (Currently amended)** The A percutaneous absorption preparation according to ~~claim 17~~ which comprising a compound having a melatonin receptor agonist activity, lauric diethanolamide and optionally one or more members selected from fatty acid esters and polyhydric alcohols, wherein the compound having a melatonin receptor agonist activity is a compound represented by the formula:



wherein, R<sup>1</sup> represents an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an optionally substituted amino group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group;

R<sup>3</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

X represents CHR<sup>4</sup>, NR<sup>4</sup>, O or S in which R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group;

Y represents C, CH or N, provided that when X is CH<sub>2</sub>, Y is C or CH;

..... represents a single bond or a double bond;

ring A represents an optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered oxygen-containing heterocyclic ring;

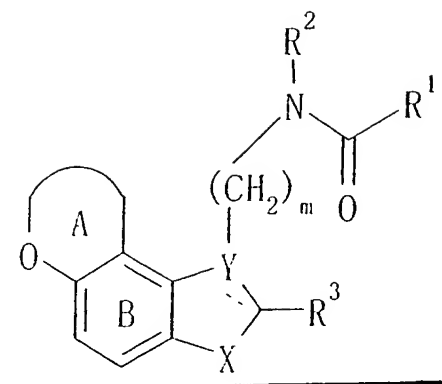
ring B represents an optionally substituted benzene ring; and

m represents an integer of 1 to 4;

or a salt thereof, wherein the percutaneous absorption preparation is a skin plaster or a skin patch which is applied and/or attached to the skin.

**22-32. (Cancelled)**

**33. (Currently amended)** ~~The A percutaneous absorption preparation according to claim 32, wherein the filler is silicon dioxide;~~ comprising a compound having a melatonin receptor agonist activity, lauric diethanolamide and optionally one or more members selected from fatty acid esters and polyhydric alcohols, wherein the compound having a melatonin receptor agonist activity is a compound represented by the formula:



wherein, R<sup>1</sup> represents an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an optionally substituted amino group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group;

R<sup>3</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

X represents CHR<sup>4</sup>, NR<sup>4</sup>, O or S in which R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group;

Y represents C, CH or N, provided that when X is CH<sub>2</sub>, Y is C or CH;

..... represents a single bond or a double bond;

ring A represents an optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered oxygen-containing heterocyclic ring;

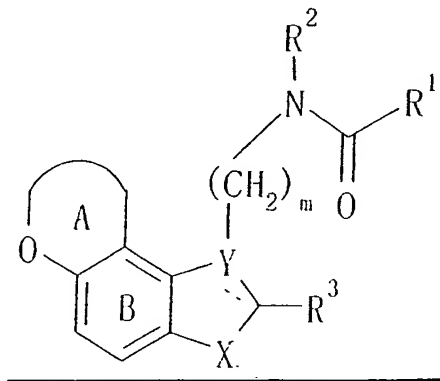
ring B represents an optionally substituted benzene ring; and

m represents an integer of 1 to 4;

or a salt thereof, wherein the percutaneous absorption preparation is contained in a skin contact member comprising silicon dioxide.

**34-38. (Cancelled)**

having a melatonin receptor agonist activity is a compound represented by the formula:



amino group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group;

optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

substituted hydrocarbon group;

Y represents C, CH or N, provided that when X is CH<sub>2</sub>, Y is C or CH;

\_\_\_\_\_ represents a single bond or a double bond:

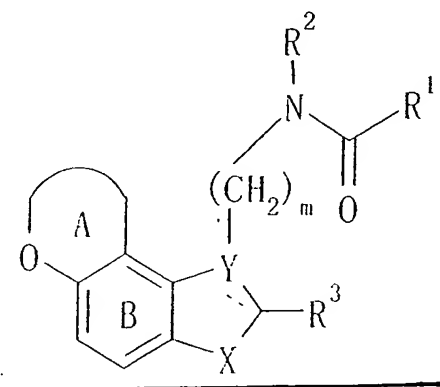
ring A represents an optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered oxygen-containing heterocyclic ring;

ring B represents an optionally substituted benzene ring; and

m represents an integer of 1 to 4;

or a salt thereof.

**40. (Currently amended)** A method for percutaneous absorption of a compound having a melatonin receptor agonist activity, which comprises administering ~~the percutaneous absorption preparation according to claim 17~~ to a patient with a melatonin related disease[.] a percutaneous absorption preparation comprising a compound having a melatonin receptor agonist activity, lauric diethanolamide and optionally one or more members selected from fatty acid esters and polyhydric alcohols, wherein the compound having a melatonin receptor agonist activity is a compound represented by the formula:



wherein, R<sup>1</sup> represents an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an optionally substituted amino group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group;

R<sup>3</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

X represents CHR<sup>4</sup>, NR<sup>4</sup>, O or S in which R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group;

Y represents C, CH or N, provided that when X is CH<sub>2</sub>, Y is C or CH;

..... represents a single bond or a double bond;

ring A represents an optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered oxygen-containing heterocyclic ring;

ring B represents an optionally substituted benzene ring; and

m represents an integer of 1 to 4;

or a salt thereof.

**41. (Cancelled)**

**42. (Previously presented)** The method according to claim 39, wherein the percutaneous absorption preparation is affixed between about 6 hours before bedtime to just before bedtime.